



Sunday, November 14th, 1993

No. 357

BALLINEASPAIG BULLETIN

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
DERRY, CO. LONDONDERRY



FROM OUR
**PARISH
TEAM**
The Dean writes

Just a thought for November.

Loneliness is a painful experience. November can be a lonely time - the dark evenings, nature dying, sadly remembering loved ones now no longer with us.

People who have experienced time in prison tell me of the awful loneliness of their life - the feeling of being in a shut-in world where nobody cares.

Of course we don't have to go to prison to experience loneliness. We can build walls between ourselves and others, and our immediate reaction might well be a sense of security. But the eventual outcome is starvation of the spirit - the pain of loneliness. We care about no one, and nobody cares about us. We are alone, and lonely.

But it doesn't have to be so. The fact is we all need a friend - a friend with whom we can share our deepest feelings, our joys and sorrows, our pain and fears, someone who understands, somebody who really cares - a real friend.

But remember - if you want to have a friend, you must be a friend. Think about it. Act upon it if you can. You will never be lonely.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR PRISONERS

This Sunday (November 14) has been designated a Day of Prayer for Prisoners. How often do we Christians pray for prisoners? Not very often, I suspect.

Yet St. Matthew tells us that when Peter asked Jesus, "Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?" Jesus answered, "Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven."

Again, when the Pharisees asked Jesus, "Master, which is the greatest Commandment?", Jesus answered, "You must love the Lord with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first Commandment." The second resembles it, "You must love your neighbour as yourself."

Luke quotes Jesus as saying, "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, PRAY FOR THOSE who treat you badly." In other words, don't judge, don't condemn, we are told. Be forgiving - and prayerful.

It is so easy to be judgemental regarding those in prison. Perhaps today we should heed Christ's teaching and visit those in prison? Let us, at the very least, pray for prisoners on this, their special Day of Prayer.

Readings for Sunday 21 November

Ex. 34:11-12, 15-17. Ps. 22, 1 Cor. 15:20-26, 28. Lk. 25:31-46.

COMMENT

MEDIA COMMENT by "LUKE"

HANGING IN THERE

Reading Clare Hunt's 'IN MY OPINION' on *Humanae Vitae* and *Veritatis Splendor* in this month's FOLD, one is struck by her deep faith, her frustration at the 'official' Church and her sadness at its apparent lack of compassion and understanding.

We are a Church which often seems to have a problem with normal and natural occurrences. In the past we have found a menstruating woman somehow 'unclean'. We found it necessary to 'church' or bless the mother after childbirth. We found it necessary to find a 'home' for unbaptised children.

This week, speaking to a group of Canadian bishops, Pope John Paul said celibacy was an integral part of the priesthood, "profoundly connected with a man's relationship with Christ." Surely one does not have to be celibate to have a profound relationship with Christ?

During the week I read Jack Anthony's 'On Reflection' piece in the CORK EXAMINER. He spoke on the danger of over-relying on the opinion of experts, saying, "We have lost the ability to trust ourselves.. lost contact with the truth within (ourselves)."

I am not advocating a 'free-for-all' Catholic Church. But it seems to me that there is room for more openness, more discussion, more compassion.

Clare Hunt ends her article by saying, "As a woman in today's Church, I feel I have managed to hold on to my faith in spite of, rather than because of, the Church Establishment."

How many others, men and women, would echo those sentiments?



We pray for the late Bill Corkery, St. Clare's Avenue, who died recently. Bill had suffered ill-health for the past number of years. A gifted craftsman who specialised in silverwork, a talent given by God, Bill used his talent well. He was cared for at home lovingly by his wife Rita, and we offer her and his daughters our sympathy and prayers.

Mary Gibney, College Road died recently after a comparatively short illness. She was a truly valiant woman who had to cope with the illness and untimely death of several of her own children. May God give her the reward of his goodness.

At cool of day, with God I walk
my garden's grateful shade;
I hear his voice among the trees
and I am not afraid. *Chinese proverb*



We offer our sincere sympathy to DAN WALSH, 19 Kenley Road, on the death of his brother.
To AUDREY O'MAHONY, BishopsCourt Road, on the death of her mother, Rita Alcock.

To Betty Kelleher, Laburnum Park on the death of her brother.

Flowers for a special foster mother



Congratulations to Helen O'Hea, Farranlea Park, who has been voted a very special mother by no less than her own son, Tony.

She has received 'Bouquet of the Month' on Tony's recommendation. Tony said that she fostered him when he was 14 days old and she is "a great person". We hope you enjoyed your flowers, Helen. Well deserved!



Walk in Egypt

With Irish Wheelchair Association during Easter '94. For further details please contact Rita at 966544.



Natural Family Planning

In his recent Encyclical, the Pope reiterated the Church's teaching on Family Planning. It should be stressed that the method needs to be learned from professionally trained counsellors and used according to the guidelines. Advice is available from N.A.O.M.I., 36 Washington Street, tel. 272213.

P.E.A.C.E

An Ecumenical Service of Remembrance and Reconciliation will be held at Christ the King Church, Turner's Cross, on Sunday 14th at 4 p.m.



Bishopstown G.A.A.

County Minor Football Championship Final, Bishopstown - v- Bantry Blues today Sunday at 2.30 p.m. in Ballygeary. Please support.

Congratulations to our U-21 Hurlers who defeated the Barra to win the City Championship title. Best of luck to them in the County Championship. Well done to Liam Meaney who played a Captain's part.



Cuanlee

Sr. Reginald of Cuanlee would like to thank those who helped with the recent collection. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for their intentions.



Bulletins to the Homes

Every home in the parish should receive a Bulletin next weekend. We thank our ever reliable distributors.

Aifreann le Gaeilge

Beidh Aifreann dhatheangach a cheiliuradh an Domhnach seo chugainn ar a naof a chlog. Tagaigi agus bigi pairteach linn.

Those who attend the 9.00 Mass on the third Sunday of the month will have noticed the increased use of Irish in the Mass, with readings, prayers and responses in Irish. Generally the reaction has been positive. People have commented on the much improved responses recently.

Make an effort next Sunday. Ni neart go cur le cheile!

Adult Education

Lecture for all "Veritatis Splendor - It's Meaning for Today's Church" by Rev. Dr. Pdraig Corkery, in the Crypt on Monday 15th November at 8.00 until 9.30 p.m. Admission £1.00.

St. Anne's Adoption Society

The annual collection will take place 20/21 November at all Masses.

The society provides many services, promoting the welfare of children and their families, as well as being a registered adoption agency. Please give generously.

Visitation

Fr. Finbarr Crowley will visit Wilton Avenue/Bishopscourt during the coming weeks.

Adoration for Peace

In the Poor Clare Chapel each Wednesday morning after 10 Mass until Benediction at 5.30 p.m. for the next four weeks (Nov. 10/17/24, Dec. 1) prayer for Reconciliation and Peace in Northern Ireland. If you are willing to pray for one hour, please sign your name and indicate time which suits you in the book kept in the Sacristy of the Descent of the Holy Spirit.

Vacancy

For School Secretary under the S.E.S. in Gaelscoil Uí Riada, Wilton. Applicant must be over 25 years of age. For further details phone 342027.

Public Meeting

If U.C.C. and its increasing student population affect your area, it is important that you attend a meeting to discuss developments in the College Road campus, at the Lough Community Centre, Tuesday 16th November at 7.30 p.m. to finish at 9.30 p.m.

Education Forum

Lecture by Dr. Paul Vitz on 'Psychology as Religion' at UCC Geography Building, Donovans Road, on Friday 12th November at 8 p.m.

On Monday 29th November there will be concelebrated Mass at 7.30 p.m. for all the deceased members of our parish who have died in the last twelve months. Families of the deceased persons will be contacted in the coming weeks.

**PRIESTS' EMERGENCY
NUMBER: 271551**